

## ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a method and to a device for detecting, determining and documenting damage to lacquered surfaces, especially parts of the bodywork of vehicles, wherein the test surface of the vehicle is sensed with light from at least one heavily focusing light source in a grid-type or raster-type manner and a surface image is produced on a screen with the light reflected on the surface, said image being detected by a capturing, evaluating and signal processing device and the surface damage therein being determined according to a specific evaluation algorithm and outputted for objective documentation of the damage. This is achieved by means of coordinated, controlled displacement and/or pivoting between the light source and screen and by means of a rotational and/or displacement and or pivoting movement of the vehicle, which is controlled in accordance with said displacement and/or pivoting, around or along the longitudinal and/or vertical axis thereof inside a load-bearing structure, wherein the respective surface area to be sensed is brought towards the light source in the reflection position and the screen and the capturing device are brought towards the reflected light in an imaging position and the movements of the light source, screen, capturing device and vehicle are controlled by means of a processor unit.